



Highfield Nursery School
Butterflies
Children's Centre



Newsletter

March 2023



Dear families,

We hope you all have a wonderful Easter Break, enjoy the sunshine and do not eat too much chocolate. The children start back on the **Monday 17th April**.

Here a few dates for your diaries to keep in mind.

Friday 31 st March	Last Day of Term
Monday 17 th April	Start of Term - All Children Back
Monday 17 th April	National Offer Day
Monday 1 st May	Bank Holiday
Monday 8 th May	Coronation - Bank Holiday
Saturday 13 th May	Highfield Hands - Family Fun Day
Monday 29 th May - Friday 2 nd June	Bank Holiday and Half Term
Monday 5 th June	All Children Back
Wednesday 12 th July	Frinton Beach Trip
Thursday 20 th July	Last Day of Term
Friday 21 st July	PD Day - Non-pupil day

Friends of Highfield

We will be having an Easter Scavenger Hunt over the Easter Holidays. Each entry will be 50p and every completed hunt will receive a chocolate lolly. All of the returned forms will go into a draw to win a chocolate hamper. More details will be given shortly.

To celebrate the King's Coronation in May, we will be selling Tea Towels, with your children's drawings. We will be busy drawing our pictures this half term and more details regarding ordering will be sent separately.

The Friends of Highfield Team recently shared some of the money raised with each area of the centre. Here are some examples of the things that have been bought.



Highfield Hands - Family Fun Day

Spring time is here so we will be spending our morning in the garden exploring flowers and seeing if we can spot any birds. We also have some new musical instruments to explore. We look forward to seeing you for some free fun with your whole family.

Saturday 13th May 2023, 10am-12 noon, here at Highfield.



Toothbrushing

The tooth brushing scheme pilot was fully funded by the oral health team in previous years, meaning we had free tooth brushes and toothpaste to use at nursery. As the pilot was so successful, the school has continued to fund toothbrushing across the nursery. Toothbrushing will continue every afternoon throughout the summer term. We have received lots of great feedback about our toothbrushing programme and we hope it continues to support all your hard work at home.

Safer Internet Day

On safer internet day we had a school discussion about our phones and tablets and what it means to use these resources safely.



A number of the children could determine what different apps were as well as what the low battery symbol looks like and what it means. We also had a discussion about; passwords and some children knew the passwords to their parent's phones or tablets.

Each newsletter we try to give you some up to date information regarding online safety for pre-school children. We want to help your children to make safe decisions when using the internet and start forming good habits in the amount of time they spend online.

YouTube - Parent Allowlisting

The YouTube Kids app was introduced in the UK in January 2016 and was designed to allow younger children to use YouTube in a more managed (moderated) way whilst giving parents extra controls. Whilst it is a great app, observations over the years suggests that very few younger children use the YouTube Kids service. In conversation with the children and their parents, the biggest reason is usually because the channels/videos that the children want to watch are not available on the YouTube Kids app.

This has now changed. YouTube have introduced a service called Parent Allowlisting which can be used on mobile devices where a parent can approve a video/channel from the main YouTube app into their child's YouTube Kids account.

There is a link to a video explainer on YouTube which you can find [HERE](#).

If you would like any further help or advice with Online Safeguarding, or have suggestions on what you would like more information about, please speak to Mrs Coleman, our Online Safeguarding Lead.



Governors

If you would like to contact a governor or would like more information about their role, please speak to the nursery office or email the governors directly on: governors@highfield.suffolk.sch.uk

Parking

Can we **PLEASE** ask parents to be extra vigilant when parking to come to the centre.

Even if you are only dropping your child off and think you will only be a few minutes; if you block just a part of one of our neighbour's driveways this is not acceptable. It is also unacceptable to park in the parking spaces outside Chesterfield Drive Surgery, the Scout Hut car park or on the pavement outside the school.

We strive to keep all our neighbours happy and this is a recurrent issue. We have a large car park at the back of nursery, which can be accessed next to the community centre from Highfield Road. The car park has one disabled bay, with a hatched area next to it. Please only use the disabled bay if you are a blue

badge holder or have spoken to the nursery about your need to use this space. The hatched area next to the bay is for accessibility to the disabled bay and should not be parked in.

We understand this car park can get full at peak times and in that case, we ask that you park in one of the side roads instead of directly in front of the Centre or the spaces outside the Doctor's Surgery. Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Absences

Please notify us of any absences on the phone line (01473 742534 ext: 0) or via ParentMail, the morning of the first day of absence. If a child has had sickness or diarrhoea, they must be kept out of Nursery for 48 hours after they were last unwell and only if they are eating properly again. If a child has been given Calpol, they must not attend Nursery either as we believe they would not be well enough in themselves to attend. Very young children are 'super transmitters' of germs and we want to make sure all the children and staff stay as healthy as possible.

Places for September 2023

Places are still available in all rooms for September, so please let your friends and family with young children know. Contact the office on 01473 742534 for more information.

National Offer Day

National offer day for primary school places this year is Monday 17th April. In the first week back after Easter, you will receive an email asking the name of the school your child has been offered a place at. This will help us to ensure transitions are as smooth as possible and ensure your child knows the other children he/she will be going to school with.



Children's Centre

Our Easter programme is now available, so look on our Facebook page and website for the uploaded timetable. Or ask at the office to get a printed copy. We have lots of opportunities for some fun free activities for you and your child to get involved in, during the Easter break.

Visit our Facebook page to see what we have been getting up to at the Children's Centre. We can be found by using this link: <https://www.facebook.com/highfieldchildrenscentreipswich/>

Did you know your child might be eligible for free funded childcare?

Visit the website: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> to find out if your child is eligible for 15 or 30 hours a week free funding. If you have any questions about funding or finding a place for your child to start nursery, please speak to a member of the Children's Centre team.

